Further, under the Central Sector, the Central Silk Board has a Regional Research Station with two Research Extension centres for extending R & D support for development of sericulture industry in the State of Jammu & Kashmir. Two Basic Seed Farms and one Seed Production Centre have been established in the State to augment supply of quality silkworm seed. In addition to these, the Board has a Regional Office in Srinagar to coordinate sericultural activities of the region. The Board has also organised study visits of farmers from Jammu & Karnataka.

Clubbing of textile industries into few groups

2708. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for clubbing the textile industries as a whole into a few groups to cater to specific consumer needs; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of viscose fibre

2709. HRI KAILASH PATI MISRA : SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether viscose fibre production is forest-based and is causing or likely to cause depletion of forests; and

(b) if so, whether prior clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests as mentioned above, will be made compulsory in the case of this industry ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : (a) and (b) Wood pulp is the basic raw material for production of viscose staple fibre. The impact of viscose fibre production on Indian forests would depend on whether raw material is imported or made from domestic timber and also on whether replacement planting is undertaken. Existing procedures regarding sanction of fresh industrial capacity provide for a review of availability of raw material from different sources.

Solution of border disputes between India and China

2710. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the recent efforts made by the Government of India in the direction of peaceful solution of border disputes between India and China and the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : It is the policy of the Government of India to find a peaceful and negotiated settlement of the boundary question with China, consistent with national honour and severeignty. The recent efforts made in this direction are :

(i) At the 7th Round of Official Level Talks in Beijing in July 1986, substantive discussions were continued on the Eastern Sector of the boundary. Discussions on the Western Sector were also initiated. The Question of the recent Chinese intrusion in Sumdorong Chu Valley of Tawang District of Arunachal Pradesh was taken up by the leader of the Indian delegation, the Foreign Secretary, Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, with the Acting-Chinese Premier, Wan Li as well as with the Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xuekian.

(ii) At his meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister in New York on September 18, 1986 the then External Affairs Minister, Shri P. Shiv Shanker, while discussing the Chinese intrusion, had emphasised that the Chinese Government should not have taken recourse to such action and that they should instead have consulted with the Government of India, if there were any doubts as to the location of the surrounding areas and the relative alignment of the Mc Mohan Line.

Robberies in banks

2711. SHRI J. P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of incidents of robberies in banks in various parts of the